

In January 1985, the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System responded to the 1984 Constitutional Amendment by stating its intention that Prairie View A&M University become “an institution nationally recognized in its areas of education and research.” The Board also resolved that the University receive its share of the Available University Fund, as previously agreed to by Texas A&M University and the University of Texas.

In October 2000, the Governor of Texas signed the Priority Plan, an agreement with the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights to make Prairie View A&M University an educational asset accessible by all Texans. The Priority Plan mandates creation of many new educational programs and facilities. It also requires removing language from the Institutional Mission Statement which might give the impression of excluding any Texan from attending Prairie View A&M University.

The University’s enrollment now exceeds 8,350 including more than 2,000 graduate students. Students come from throughout the United States as well as many foreign countries. In the last five years, 5,970 degrees were awarded, including more than 2,400 graduate degrees. During the University’s 132-year history, some 51,500 academic degrees have been awarded.

Administrative Organization

A current organizational chart for Prairie View A&M University is available in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Analysis and in the Office of the Chancellor, Texas A&M University System.

Mission

Prairie View A&M University is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research and service. It is committed to achieving relevance in each component of its mission by addressing issues and proposing solutions through programs and services designed to respond to the needs and aspirations of individuals, families, organizations, agencies, schools, and communities--both rural and urban. Prairie View A&M University is a state-assisted institution by legislative designation, serving a diverse ethnic and socioeconomic population, and a land-grant institution by federal statute. Having been designated by the Texas constitution as one of the three “institutions of the first class” (1984), the University is committed to preparing undergraduates in a range of careers including but not limited to engineering, computer science, natural sciences, architecture, business, technology, criminal justice, the humanities, education, agricultural sciences, nursing, mathematics, and the social sciences. It is committed to advanced education through the master’s degree in education, engineering, natural sciences, nursing, selected social sciences, agriculture, business, and human sciences. It is committed to expanding its advanced educational offerings to include multiple doctoral programs.

Though the University's service area has generally extended throughout Texas and the world, the University's target service area for offering undergraduate and graduate programs of study includes the Texas Gulf Coast Region; the rapidly growing residential and commercial area known as the Northwest Houston Corridor; and urban Texas centers likely to benefit from Prairie View A&M University's specialized programs and initiatives in nursing, juvenile justice, architecture, education, and social work. The University's public service programs offered primarily through the Cooperative Extension Program target the State of Texas, both rural and urban counties. The University's research foci include extending knowledge in all disciplines offered and incorporating research-based experiences in both undergraduate and graduate students' academic development.

CORE VALUES

ACCESS AND QUALITY

Prairie View A&M University will provide equal educational opportunity to increasing numbers of persons from unserved and underserved populations residing primarily among the economically and socially bypassed in the society; further, the University will provide educational programs designed to prepare all graduates to compete successfully in the graduate and professional schools as well as in the labor force.

DIVERSITY

Prairie View A&M University will sustain its commitment to recruit, enroll, educate, and graduate students and to employ and advance faculty and staff without regard to age, ethnicity, gender, national origin, socioeconomic background, or educationally unrelated handicap; further, the University will offer challenges to both the academically talented and the under-prepared who arrive in college with ability, but without college-ready achievement.

LEADERSHIP

Prairie View A&M University will stimulate, initiate, and implement programs and services to both inspire and guide students, faculty, and staff in developing their self-confidence, self-discipline, and other requisites to becoming successful leaders in their professions and in their communities; further, the University will offer campus-based and distance education programs to enhance the life chances for persons in its service areas.

RELEVANCE

Prairie View A&M University will respond to the need for highly literate, technologically competent graduates educated to excel in the 21st century work force; further, the University will extend the products of its research and service to address concerns and solve problems such as violence, abuse and misuse; drug and alcohol abuse; mental, physical, and psychological neglect; environmental injustice; and other forms of social dissonance that compromise the quality of life for the citizenry.